G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) According to the information received from Government of Andhra Pradesh, 80 complaints were received against village Sarpanches regarding misuse of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana funds in Guntur District. Out of these complaints, 46 have been disposed of.

(c) 13 village Sarpanches have been removed and 9 village Sarpanches have been suspended in Guntur District for misappropriation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana funds.

(d) and (e) Five cases of suspension removal of village Sarpanches are pending in the High Court.

Research and Development Projects in Bio-Technology

3799. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main Research and Development projects undertaken in the field of Bio-technology during the last five years and the Eighth Five Year Plan alongwith the thrust areas thereof;

(b) the details of success achieved so far; and

(c) the details of the action programme for manpower training in Bio-Technology during the Eighth Five Year Plan in general and Maharashtra State in particular Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Bio-technology research and development programmes in important sectors of agriculture, medical research and basic understanding at the cellular and molecular levels have been supported by the scientific agencies such as Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR); Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR); Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Atomic Energy. There are specialised institutions under these agencies devoted to research in modern biology. Focussed efforts through the Department of Biotechnology started in the identified thrust areas namely, (1) Aquaculture and Marine Biotechnology; (2) Animal Biotechnology-Veterinary Sciences, Animal Husbandry and Leather Biotechnology; (3) Basic Research, Emerging Areas and R&D Facilities; (4) Biochemical Engineering, Downstream Processing and Instrumentation; (5) Bioinformatics; (6) Biological Control of Pests, Diseases and Weeds; (7) Environmental Biotechnology; (8) Fuel, Fodder, Biomass, Horticulture, Plantation Crops and Sericulture; (9) Industrial Biotechnology; (10) Integrated Manpower Planning; (11) Medical Biotechnology; (12) Microbial Biotechnology and (13) Plant Molecular Biology and Agricultural Biotechnology. The main Research & Development Projects supported by the DBT in the last five years as also those which have been included in the 8th Five Year Plan covered the above thrust areas.

Some of the successful projects demonstrated in the field conditions and also these which have found successful applications are; oilpalm, tissue culture cardamom, embryo transfer technology, semi-intensive prawn farming and intensive carp culture, successful tagging and disease resistance genes in rice plants and bacterial leaf blight, biological control of pests and diseases, biofertilizers, leprosy vaccines, talsur as animal injection and about 13 diagnostic kits for various diseases. Some of the kits have already been released to the Industry. The anti-fertility female vaccine has entered phase-2 clinical trials; Folicle Stimulation Hormone (FSH) in males to impart sterility has been developed and phase-1 clinical trials started.

Biotechnology Information System is recognised by national and international organizations and has been effectively utilized by the scientific community in the country to access data bases and information in the areas of genetic engineering, immunology, crop biotechnology, molecular biology etc.

(c) The Manpower Development Programmes have supported 25 Universities for M.Sc. and M.Tech. and Post-doctoral courses. 1100 students were admitted for the courses and 600 have completed; 115 short-term mid-career development training courses imparted and 1400 scientists have been trained. There are programmes for schools which include development of computor software biology scholarships and biology school teachers training.

In the State of Maharashtra, manpower development programme has been started in Pune University and I.I.T., Bombay. A course for downstream processing will start in University Department of Chemical Technology in Bombay. Infrastructural facilities created in Maharashtra include National Facility for Animal Tissue and Cell Culture at Pune, a Pilot Plant Facility for Tissue Culture at N.C.L., Pune and Antibiotic Consortium at H.A.L., Pune. Research and development projects have been supported in many academic and research institutions in Maharashtra such as National Environmental Engineering Research Institute at Nagpur is receiving major support for environmental biotechnology.

Manufacturing of light transport Aircrafts

3800. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Aeronautical Laboratory has prepared the concept and design of an Indian Light Transport Aircraft;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether this project would be totally indigenous or would have foreign collaboration; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND ~~DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN~~ DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) National Aeronautical Laboratory, Bangalore has prepared a feasibility report and evolved the design specifications for a Light Transport Aircraft. As per these specifications, the proposed aircraft will have a capacity of upto 14 passengers with a maximum take off weight of 5700 Kgs. The aircraft is to be fully pressurized to cruise at altitude upto 10.5 Kms. with speed upto 650 Kmph. It will have a range of 2500 Kms. with capability to take off and land from semi-prepared airstrips using about 600 metres of runway length.

(c) and (d) In order to minimize the time and expenses for development, it is proposed to share the efforts on design, development and type certifications on a fifty-fifty basis with the Myasishchew Design Bureau of Russia and to obtain the engines from Pratt & Whitney of Canada.

Screening of a video film

3801. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a 28-minute video film titled "Killing Fields" was produced on a grant given by DST;

(b) whether Government are also aware that it was scheduled for screening